

NEW DISTRIBUTION RECORDS FOR SOME BUTTERFLIES AND HAWK MOTHS FROM FAR NORTHERN QUEENSLAND

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Abstract

New Torres Strait island localities are given for three butterfly species (two Pieridae and one Lycaenidae). The second known female of *Ionolyce helicon hyllus* (Waterhouse & Lyell) (Lycaenidae) is recorded. Two hawk moth species (Sphingidae) are recorded from within Australian limits for the first time.

Introduction

The butterfly and hawk moth species listed below were taken on a field trip to Torres Strait, northern Queensland, during December 1986 and January 1987. Three of the butterflies and one of the two hawk moths were taken on Dauan Island, while the other hawk moth species came from Boigu Island; both these islands lie some 10 km south of the Papua New Guinea coastline. The second known female of *Ionolyce helicon hyllus* is recorded from the Old Lockhart River Mission site, Cape York Peninsula. All specimens are in the author's collection except the female of *I. helicon* which is on permanent loan to the Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra.

Pieridae

Delias mysis onca Fruhstorfer

A single ♀ taken on Dauan Island, Torres Strait, on 8 Jan. 1987 is the third known specimen from within Australian limits; a pair having been previously recorded from Moa Island (Common and Waterhouse, 1981).

Cepora perimale latilimbata (Butler)

A ♂ and ♀ were taken on Dauan Island, Torres Strait, on 8 and 9 Jan. 1987. It has previously been recorded from Darnley and Yam Islands (Common and Waterhouse, 1981).

Lycaenidae

Petrelaea dana (de Niceville)

A ♂ was taken on Dauan Island, Torres Strait, on 9 Jan. 1987. Within Torres Strait this species has been previously recorded on Moa, Yorke, Thursday and Darnley Islands.

Ionolyce helicon hyllus (Waterhouse and Lyell)

A single female taken at the Old Lockhart River Mission site, Cape York Peninsula, on 14 Dec. 1986 appears to be the second recorded ♀ of this subspecies.

Waterhouse and Lyell (1914) described a female of *Ionolyce helicon hyllus* (Waterhouse and Lyell) from Cape York and illustrated the upperside (their Fig. 350). My specimen is similar to the one figured by Waterhouse and Lyell. Common and Waterhouse (1981) reported that G. E. Tite was of the opinion that the true female of *I. h. hyllus* may have a white spot on the fore wing as is found in *I. h. caracalla* (Waterhouse and Lyell) from New Guinea and Darnley Island. However Tite (1963) did not record this opinion and, indeed, pointed out that the subspecies *I. h. caracalla* was the only subspecies with a white spot on the fore wing. Subspecies from localities from Sri Lanka to the islands west of New Guinea are without the white spots as are specimens from the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. My specimen is quite similar to females from Vanuatu and there seems to be no doubt of its identity.

Sphingidae

Daphnis dohertyi Rothschild

A ♂ was taken by me on Dauan Island, Torres Strait, on 8 Jan. 1987. In the Australian National Insect Collection, Canberra, there are 5 other specimens taken from Torres Strait islands as follows: 3 ♂♂, Warraber (Sue) Island, 18, 19.xii.1977, J. Walker and S. Bakker; 2 ♂♂, Booby Island, 18-19.xii.1977, K. Edlington. These are the first records of this species from within Australian limits.

Eurypteryx molucca Felder

A single ♂ was taken on Boigu Island, Torres Strait, on 6 Jan. 1987 and represents the first specimen to be taken within Australian limits.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Mr E. D. Edwards for help in the preparation of this paper. Mr M. S. Moulds kindly offered helpful comments on the manuscript.

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